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May 19. 1999

4481 '99 JU 11 P2:52

Dr. Jane E. Henney, Commissioner Food and Drug Administration 5600 Fishers Lane, HF-1 Rockville, MD 20857

Dear Dr. Henney,

I am writing to express my concerns about the explosion of genetically engineered seeds and foods. As I understand it, next year 100% of the country's soybean crop will be genetically engineered, if Monsanto's plan unfolds on schedule. Since soy products are central to my diet, I am especially concerned. And I am angry that my choice in the quality of food I want may be eliminated.

I am also deeply concerned that genetically engineered products will not be labeled. A simple question is why not? Why not let the public know that foods now genetically engineered include Crisco, Kraft salad dressing, Nestle's chocolate, Fritos, and McDonalds' fries. Wood you feel comfortable feeding your kids these foods? In May a lawsuit was filed challenging the FDA's policy not to require such labeling. I am writing in support of the demands of this lawsuit for safety testing and complete and prominent labels.

I urge you to make every effort to protect the consumer and be very careful about supporting Monsanto's or any other industry's technological wonders. Monsanto's PR people claim that GE seeds are designed to feed the world's hungry. This is bogus. I'm sure you are aware that two-thirds of genetically engineered crops now available, or in development, are designed specifically to increase the sale of pesticides produced by companies selling genetically engineered seed. Beyond that, such products gravely threaten plan diversity—scarcely a way to secure food for the peoples of the world.

I look forward to hearing that FDA is scrutinizing the role of genetic engineering in agriculture, that the FDA is informing the public of the possible consequences of GE, and at the very least, labels products that are genetically engineered.

Sincerely,

Patricia Bei

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